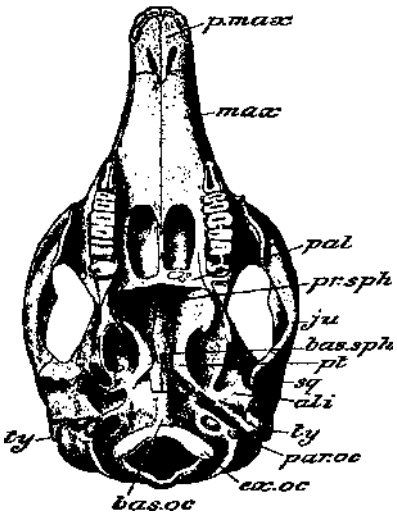
the original statement of Owen was correct, at least in part. It is at most feebly developed (see Fig. 58, p. 118).

As to skeletal characters, the Marsupial skull has on the whole a tendency towards a permanent separation of bones usually firmly aukylosed. Thus the orbitosphenoids remain distinct from the presphenoid. The palate is largely fenestrated, a return as it were—says Professor Parker—to the Schizognathous palate of the bird. The mandible is inflected; this familiar character of the Marsupials goes back to the earliest representatives of the order in Mesozoic times (see p.



96); but it is not absolutely universal, being absent from the much weakened skull of *Tarsipes.* On the other hand, the inflection is nearly as great in certain Insectivores, in *Otocyon,* etc. The malar always extends back to form part of the glenoid cavity. The shoulder girdle

FM. 62. —Skull of Rock Wallaby • *(Petroffaie peniGwata).* (ventralview.; *aCi,* Alisplienoui; *l>as.oc,* ba«i-ocelpital ; *bos^h,* basi-apheṅoid ; *ex,oc-,* ex-occipital ; //*, jugal ; *max)* maxilla ; *joal,* palatine; *jpttr.oc,* parocoipital ; *p.max,* premaxiila; *pr.sph,* presphenoid ; *pi,* pterygoid ; *s(f,* squamosal ; *ty,* tympanic. (From and Haswell's *Zoology.)*

of Monotremes ; this bone has the vestigial character that it possesses in other Eutheria. The clavicle is present except in the Peramelidae. A third trochanter upon the femur seems to be never present.

The Marsupials cannot be regarded as an intermediate stage in the origin of the Eutheria for a number of reasons. In the first place, the nature of their teeth shows them to ; has lost the large COracoid